

"The people are really close to each other; it's like one big family here. Everybody cares about everybody else," Goss-Mydock said.

The preacher and his wife, who served as the witness, attended the wedding. The Mydocks then had their reception down a dirt road that bisects the community with patrons of the Weed Cafe, a gathering place for residents seeking news on the fire.

The family-run restaurant which also houses the community's post office, stayed open during the tense days and nights of the fire and the following evacuation, donating food and other provisions to firefighters and evacuees. Some residents ignored the evacuation and stayed put, others took up residence with friends or relatives.

"I stayed open to supply hot coffee to the people and provide telephones," said Gary Stone, 45, who lives several miles down the road in Miller Flats. "I was making sure the coffee was on and the doors were open."

### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will stand in recess until the hour of 2:16 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:37 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001—Continued

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, this weekend an estimated 750,000 mothers, fathers, and children united for the Million Mom March here in the District. These women and men took the first step toward ending the epidemic of gun violence in our country.

Certainly, Congress needs to take the next step. It is intolerable that commonsense gun safety legislation is stalled in a conference committee that has not met since August 5 of 1999. Twelve kids die a day from gun violence and we do nothing. We have more safety regulations for toy guns than for real guns, and we do nothing. We have watched children shot in schools and day-care centers, but still we do nothing.

Yesterday, the Democratic Policy Committee held a hearing with mothers from the Million Mom March. At the hearing, I heard stories that I must say will haunt me for a long time. I lis-

tened to a kindergarten schoolteacher talk about her horror when one of her seemingly innocent students, a kindergartner, brought a gun to school to kill a classmate. She remains afraid to teach and afraid for her students.

I listened to the mother of an aspiring high school graduate who was gunned down in front of his girlfriend's home while unloading groceries. As she talked about her loss, and demanded Congress act, she said simply:

I don't want this to happen to any other mother, father, sister or brother. I don't want anyone else to suffer like this.

I listened to a mother whose oldest son was shot and killed by a neighbor in a sleepy town in California. She told us:

I came to the District to protect my son, Brandon, from gun violence because he is the only child that I have left.

I ask my colleagues, what else will it take for us to act to stem this domestic war of violence that is infecting every city and county in our beloved country? We cannot wait any longer for the juvenile justice conference to meet and act.

I was disappointed by comments made by the National Rifle Association when asked whether all of this effort, 750,000 people coming to Washington as peacefully as any group I have ever seen come, organized in a respectful way, telling their stories, as tragic as they are, with the courage that I don't think I personally could muster, the personal stories of lost sons and daughters, mothers and fathers—the NRA was asked the question, Will this translate to political power? Their answer:

It's one thing to say it. It's another thing to do it.

They understand political power. They have it. But I do think that is changing. The landscape is changing, and it is changing dramatically. As a South Dakotan who has been raised with guns all my life, who is proud to be a hunter—I have many guns myself—I will say without equivocation that it, too, is even changing in my home State.

Given the fact it has now been more than a year, given the fact that we have not yet acted, given the fact that we ought to respond to all those people who came to Washington with their courage and with what few pennies they had to pay for their trips, I ask unanimous consent that no rule XVI point of order lie against any gun-related amendment to the military construction appropriations. This would apply to Republican or Democratic amendments.

Mr. BURNS. Objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

AMENDMENT NO. 3148

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I, therefore, send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE] proposes an amendment numbered 3148.

At the appropriate place add the following:

Since Mother's Day, May 14, 2000, an estimated 750,000 mothers, fathers, and children united for the Million Mom March on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. and were joined by tens of thousands of others, in 70 cities across America, in a call for meaningful, common-sense gun policy;

Since 4,223 young people ages 19 and under were killed by gunfire—one every two hours, nearly 12 young people every day—in the United States in 1977;

Since American children under the age of 15 are 12 times more likely to die from gunfire than children in 25 other industrialized countries combined;

Since gun safety education programs are inadequate to protect children from gun violence;

Since a majority of the Senate resolved that the House-Senate Juvenile Justice Conference should meet, consider and pass by April 20, 2000, a conference report to accompany H.R. 1501, the Juvenile Justice Act, and that the conference report should retain the Senate-passed gun safety provisions to limit access to firearms by juveniles, felons, and other prohibited persons;

Since the one year Anniversary of the Columbine High School tragedy passed on April 20, 2000, without any action by the Juvenile Justice Conference Committee on the reasonable gun safety measures that were passed by the Senate almost one year ago;

Since continued inaction on this critical threat to public safety undermines confidence in the ability of the Senate to protect our children and raises concerns about the influence of special interests opposed to even the most basic gun safety provisions;

Since this lack of action on the part of the Juvenile Justice Conference Committee and this Congress to stem the flood of gun violence is irresponsible and further delay is unacceptable; and

Since protecting our children from gun violence is a top priority for our families, communities, and nation: Now, therefore, be it

Determined, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the organizers, sponsors, and participants of the Million Mom March should be commended for rallying to demand sensible gun safety legislation; and

(2) Congress should immediately pass a conference report to accompany H.R. 1501, the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act, before the Memorial Day Recess, and include the Lautenberg-Kerrey gun show loophole amendment and the other Senate-passed provisions designed to limit access to firearms by juveniles, convicted felons, and other persons prohibited by law from purchasing or possessing firearms.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have not had a chance to review this language, so I suggest the absence of a quorum in order to have the opportunity to do that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.